

LEOPOLD IS SCATHED

Rev. Johnson Holds King Responsible for Murder.

CALLS HIM "HUMAN MONSTER"

Admits, However, He Has Never Visited Congo State—Baron Moncheur, Minister from Belgium, Does Not Believe Story—Consul General Whiteley Utters Refutes Charges.

Dr. Herbert Johnson yesterday branded King Leopold of Belgium, and sovereign of the Congo Free State, a "human monster," and directly accused him of the most unspeakable atrocities and murders, committed not only with his knowledge, but by his command, in the regions of the vast stretch of country placed under his protection and guidance with the consent of all the powers.

Rev. Mr. Johnson was formerly a Boston clergyman, but is now traveling and speaking in the interests of the Congo Reform Association. It was at the vestry service held in Andrew Rankin Chapel, Howard University, yesterday afternoon before an audience of about 300 students of the institution and a score of white people that he made his charges against Leopold.

Dr. Johnson, in terms of seriousness, called upon each of the audience to send a letter to Secretary Root and request him to use the influence of the United States and his own influence with other countries to bring about a cessation of conditions as they now exist in the Congo Free State.

Has Never Visited Country. The speaker admitted that he had based his opinions and arguments leading to his conviction as to the state of affairs in the Congo on the testimony of others; that he himself had never visited the scene of the atrocities as described by him.

"Some people thought I was crazy," said the speaker, "when I first started out on this crusade. My stories of what actually happened in the Congo sounded so incredible as to stagger the imagination, and they were almost past belief." Dr. Johnson exhibited a heavy leather strip whip, which he said had been used, not only on the backs of men, but women and children, by the King's soldiers.

"What has been the attitude of Leopold toward the evidences," asked the speaker, "has he ever brought them to the bar of justice? I can only say that Hagstrom, the King's commissioner in the Free State, who had charge of the King's interests there, has been promoted since the report which charged him with the most revolting crimes was made by a commission appointed by King Leopold to investigate matters."

Edicts Not Compulsory. "Since the carrying out of the King's edicts in the hands of men who have committed murders in the past, and since the edict is not compulsory, but left to their own discretion, we cannot expect any good results therefrom."

"We would surely be interested in the treatment those unfortunate people are subjected to and protest against it if they were friends or relatives of ours, or even if we had money invested in the land. Shame on you and me and all Americans for standing by idly. Shame on you and me and all Americans for not trying to help, for not even protesting against the greatest wrongs that history ever knew."

"The only man who was ever punished in connection with Congo affairs was the missionary, Stannard, who had the courage to speak out against the King; who had the courage to tell the truth about the Congo."

Prohibits Discussion of Action. "Since Stannard spoke, Leopold has passed an edict which makes it a crime punishable with five years' imprisonment for any person to discuss in an unfavorable light matters pertaining to his African possessions. The effect of this law will be that we will hear many more cries of wrongs committed in that dark region; the voice of the millions who are being forever unless we do something to do away with that injustice."

"James Gustavus Whiteley, of Baltimore, will tell the press of the schools, churches, hospitals, and other benevolent institutions erected in the Congo by King Leopold, and the great benefit he has thereby bestowed on humanity in the name of Christianity. I say these stories are golden dreams of delusion."

WHITELEY DENIES ALL

Says Stories Are Based on Fabrications of Missionaries.

James Whiteley, consul general of the Congo Free State, has been in the city for several days, making an investigation of the stories which have been circulated generally among members of Congress in connection with the work of trying to create a reform movement in the Congo Free State.

It is claimed that the state of affairs in the Congo Free State is in a serious condition, and that a state of barbarism exists there, and stories have been circulated concerning the severe laws imposed upon the natives.

Mr. Whiteley denies these stories, and says that there is no foundation for their being started, and he is here to refute them.

"The Congo question has entered upon a new phase," he said. "The conditions prevailing in the Free State have been investigated by a commission whose honesty and integrity have been acknowledged, even by the bitterest enemies of the Congo government."

"The opinion of the commissioners was: That the charges against the Congo administration had been greatly exaggerated; that in certain instances the Congo government had been guilty of negligence, but that, taking it all in all, the administration compared favorably with the government of the colonies of other powers in Africa, and that a number of administrative reforms should be put in operation as soon as possible—especially that the labor-tax should be more strictly supervised and equitably levied, and that the use of 'captives' (armed native overseers) should be prohibited to concessionary companies. These were the two defects in the Congo administration which had given rise to most of the criticisms against the government."

"On the 3d of June, 1906, King Leopold issued twenty-five decrees, carrying out the recommendations of the commission of inquiry. 'The accusations against the Congo are chiefly based upon four kinds of evidence. These include: 'Stories, partly true and partly false, of a few isolated incidents which occurred many years ago during the period when all the energies of King Leopold's government were engaged in putting down the Arab slave raids, and in the days when the state was just beginning to set its hand to the task of administering this immense territory in darkest Africa. 'Endless exaggerations and multiplications of those stories, reminding one of Falstaff's eleven men in buckram suits grown out of two. 'Fanciful stories told by natives and

accepted by missionaries as gospel truth, without the slightest attempt at verification."

"Flat libels. 'Some of the 'proofs' against the Congo are so ridiculous that they can hardly be considered seriously. For example, the secretary of the Boston Congo Reform Association, in a recent publication, seriously asserts that as the exports from the Congo exceed the imports by some \$5,000,000 a year, it follows that King Leopold is looting the country to the extent of about \$5,000,000 a year. It sounds rather like an argument from 'Alice in Wonderland.' One could as well say that because the exports of India exceed the imports by \$100,000,000 a year, England is looting India to the extent of \$100,000,000, or that she is robbing the Transvaal of \$5,000,000 annually, and the Malay States of like amounts."

"These stories are only a few of the many absurd ones which have been going around among the churches, and it is natural that people will believe a lie when there is no contradiction to it. 'The time will come very soon when the truth of the present condition of the Free State will be known."

MONCHEUR IS SKEPTICAL.

Belgian Minister Considers Accusations as Calumnies.

Baron Moncheur, the Belgian Minister, when seen about Dr. Johnson's statements, last night, made the following statement: 'I desire only to say that I consider these accusations as calumnies against the administration of the Congo. I await with full confidence the report of the commission of the United States, who has just arrived in the Congo.'

The report referred to by the Belgian Minister is that of Clarence Rice Slocum, consul general of the United States to the Congo, who has been instructed by all matters pertaining to the administration of that much-talked-of country.

Mr. Slocum has just arrived at his destination, Boma, his official residence, and it is expected that he will set out on his tour of gathering the necessary data for the report, which is awaited in this and other countries with a great deal of interest.

ARRESTED IN HIS WIND WAGON

Dr. Thomas, Aeronaut, Captured by Police on Broadway.

Runs His Winged Screw on Wheels for Five Blocks and Is Cheered by Great Crowd.

New York, Dec. 9.—Followed by a shouting mob, Dr. Julian P. Thomas ran his new wind wagon from Seventy-first street to Seventy-sixth street on Broadway, this afternoon, until a policeman threatened to arrest him for running a motor vehicle without a license.

Dr. Thomas calls his machine a helicopter—or winged screw. It is gray in color and looks like an overgrown tricycle with a big fan on the forward end. This fan is really a propeller or puller, and is driven by an all-powerful gasoline motor. The operator sits on a bicycle saddle, so that his head misses the shafting above it by about an inch.

Dr. Thomas says his helicopter is an experiment to determine the relation between horsepower, fans, lifting power, and a few other things. It is easier, he says, to work out these things on the ground than in the air.

The machine moved down Broadway at a good rate of speed. Several times the vehicle showed signs of skidding, and it followed a rather devious path. This prompted the doctor to throw off the clutch a moment. But the clutch had "frozen," and it was found necessary to stop the engine.

At this point a policeman Debby appeared and demanded his license. He said he had none, and the police stopped the experiment.

TWO DIE IN FIGHT FOR LOVE.

Rejected Suitor and His Companion Accused of Double Murder.

Washington, Mo., Dec. 9.—Two men are dead from bullet wounds as a result of their active interest in the rivalry of a friend for the hand of Miss Ida Stetz, who is said to be one of the prettiest girls in the State. The double tragedy was a sequel to an entertainment from which Miss Stetz hurriedly departed when she was informed that a disappointed sweetheart had arrived from St. Louis determined on an interview.

The dead men are Walter E. Robertson and Otto Henry Rummey, members of two of the leading families of the city. It is charged that the shooting was done by Charles Warren, and that Charles Simpson, a St. Louis merchant and the unsuccessful suitor for Miss Stetz's hand, was an accessory. There was a fight after the girl had departed.

Labor Man Assaults Mayor.

Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 9.—Presumably because of the measures taken by him to repress riots growing out of the strike of iron molders here, several months ago, Mayor Dewitt C. Badger, of this city, was the victim of an assault on the part of Charles Miller, chairman of the strike committee. Mayor Badger was painfully injured in the affray, which took place in the corridors of the courthouse. Miller was arrested on affidavits of citizens who witnessed the attack.

Noted Horse "General" Dead.

Middletown, N. Y., Dec. 9.—"General" is dead at Sussex, aged thirty-three years. General was a horse of much beauty, high spirit, great energy, and fine poise. He was the last horse owned by the late Gen. John A. Dix, who was presented to him by the late Garret A. Hobart, afterward Vice President. When Gen. Kilpatrick became Minister to Chile he sold the General to E. P. Walling, of Sussex. The horse broke one of its legs and had to be killed.

Fireman Killed in Kansas Wreck.

Pittsburg, Kans., Dec. 9.—One person was killed and several injured this afternoon in a collision between a Missouri Pacific passenger and a "Prisco" freight train at the crossing near this city. T. F. Freeman, fireman of the passenger, was instantly killed. Engineer John A. Page was badly hurt, and Frank Stork, a passenger, sustained injuries by being thrown against a seat.

Woman Dies from Gas.

Newark, N. J., Dec. 9.—Mrs. E. J. Dinks, a widow, aged 62, who lived on Wake-man avenue, was asphyxiated by gas today.

Ocean Steamships.

New York, Dec. 9.—Arrived: Steamships New York, from Southampton; December 1, Rialto, from Bremen; La Bretagne, from Havre.

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BEGIN SIX-DAY GRIND

Riders at Madison Square Garden Cheered by 12,000.

"OLD TIMERS" SET FAST PACE

Blue Ribbon Event in Cycling World Again On-Metling, of Canadian Team, Leads at End of First Five Miles—Sixteen Lined Up at Midnight for the Flash of the Pistol.

Madison Square Garden, New York, Dec. 10.—At the end of the second hour the score was 49 miles 2 laps, with all of the teams tied.

Madison Square Garden, New York, Dec. 9.—In the presence of 12,000 cheering people sixteen teams, included in whose ranks are the best long-distance cyclists in the United States, started in the annual six-day race for the "blue ribbon" of the indoor cycle world of the United States. The men got away at one minute after midnight and the pace hit up was a hot one from the start, it plainly being the intention of the "old-timers" to kill off the newcomers as quickly as possible.

In the sixteen teams that began the race almost on the stroke of 12, are McFarland, Walthour, MacLean, Moran, and Downing, who competed in many a hard-fought race.

The riders scheduled to begin the race for their teams were announced just before midnight. They are as follows: Vanderstuyft, for Vanderstuyft and Stoll; Vanoni, for Breton and Vanoni; Leon George, for George brothers; Clarke, for Pye and Clarke; McFarland, for Rutt and McFarland; MacLean, for Walthour and MacLean; Root, for Root and Fogler; Moran, for Downey and Moran; McDonald, for McDonald and Coffey; Samuelson, for Samuelson and Hullister; Downing, for Hopper and Downing; Menus Bedell, for the Bedell brothers; Krebs, for Krebs and Rupprecht; Schiller, for Schiller and McDonald; Galvin, for Galvin and Wiley, and Mettling, for Mettling and Logan.

All got away all right except Frank Galvin, who fell and then walked until the bunch came around again, but this made no difference, as all were scored on even terms at the end of the first mile.

McFarland led the first time around and Moran was in front at the end of the first lap, after the real racing began. Moran was still in the lead at the end of the first mile for which his time was 2 minutes 57 seconds. Vanderstuyft started the second lap in front at the end of the first lap, after the real racing began. Moran was still in the lead at the end of the first mile for which his time was 2 minutes 57 seconds.

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PUT \$150,000,000 INTO MINES.

Craze Beats South Sea Bubble in Number of Investors.

This is the statement of George R. Caldwell, manager of the bond department of the American Trust and Savings Bank.

"A conservative estimate of the sum contributed," he said, "is \$150,000,000. All classes, from the laundress to the lawyer, the merchant to the clergyman, have caught the speculative fever. 'One Philadelphia banker recently estimated that fully \$50,000,000 of Philadelphia money had been taken out of the banks for investment in mining shares in the last year. He estimated Pittsburgh was committed to \$25,000,000, and other large cities at from \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000 each. Many bankers in New York, St. Louis, Chicago, and elsewhere can give similar testimony. In Chicago fully \$50,000,000 is in speculative mining stocks."

The strain upon manufacturing, mercantile, and other business interests because of insufficient funds and dear money is everywhere apparent. Banks will not lend on these stocks, hence they must be bought outright. When the decline comes, as it did a few years ago in England, there will be great disturbance in our financial centers."

FIFTEEN SINK WITH SHIP.

British Trading Vessel Hits Rocks Off the Belgian Coast.

Brussels, Belgium, Dec. 9.—A British trading vessel, whose name has not yet been learned, went on the rocks near Knocke, on the Belgium coast, Sunday, and fifteen persons were drowned. No particulars of the disaster are yet available.

RESENT REFLECTION ON JUDGE

Friends of Walter Evans, of Federal Bench, Angry at President.

Reference Made in Message to Congress to Decision, Which Is Called an "Absurdity."

Special to The Washington Herald.

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 9.—Little short of a sensation has been created here by the announcement that President Taft had ordered Judge Evans, of the Western Kentucky district, by the President in his message to Congress and by the Attorney General in his annual report. Judge Evans recently rendered a decision the effect of which is to hold unconstitutional a section of the act approved June 1, 1888, which provides for the amicable settlement of controversies between carriers and their employees and making it a penal offense for carriers to discriminate against employees on account of membership in labor organizations or to attempt to prevent their obtaining employment after discharge.

Under the law the government has no appeal in the case, and the President, in urging that a law giving an appeal be enacted, while not mentioning Judge Evans' name, said it seemed an "absurdity" to allow a judge to take that course.

Judge Evans served several terms in Congress, and was for four years a member of the Ways and Means Committee. He has always been a stalwart Republican. That he should be so severely criticized by the administration causes a big surprise in political circles.

Judge Evans declines to discuss the case, but some of his friends who think the judge has been badly treated by the administration, are not maintaining the same degree of judicial secretiveness with the judges.

Col. Henry L. Stone, one of the most prominent members of the Louisville bar, said today:

"There are many members of the legal profession throughout this country who would justly characterize such covert attacks as the President has made upon the decisions of able and conservative Federal judges by some other name than that of 'judicial review.'"

"I do not believe that, in asking Congress to pass legislation allowing the government to appeal in criminal or penal cases, the President should have gone out and asked the judges to resign."

A Federal judge, who, under oath, has decided a Congressional statute unconstitutional.

Nienagua Laborers Seek Work.

Mobile, Ala., Dec. 9.—Passengers arriving here from Bluefields, Nicaragua, bring a gloomy report of the effect of the hurricane on the coast of Nicaragua, in depriving laborers of their livelihood and forcing them to leave the country. Every man, woman and child, even the children, were crowded with passengers, who are eager to seek any place where work will be given them.

Failed to Practice What He Read.

From Tri-Ex.

"James, dear, will you bring me up a bushel of coal from the cellar?" said a busy wife.